| PATENT APPLICATION   | ON FEE DETERM            | ·<br>MINATION DECO          |                   | Applicatio      | n or C                | Docket Nu                 | mber  |        |
|--|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|---|--------|
| Effec  | ctive October 1, 2       | 000                         | טאינ              | 101             | 5                     | 923                       | S   |        |
| CLAIMS A   | S FILED - PART           | 1                           | SMALI             | ENTIT           | +                     | 777                       |   | 1      |
|  | (Column 1) - (Golumn 2)  |                             | SMALL ENTITY TYPE |                 |                       | OTHER THAN R SMALL ENTITY |   | İ      |
| TOTAL CLAIMS   |                          |                             | RAT               | FEE             | <b>7</b>              | RATE                      |   |        |
| FOR  |                          | NUMBER EXTRA                | BASIC             | -120°C          | POR                   |                           | 7550  | 00     |
| TOTAL CHARGEABLE CLAIMS  | 58 minus 20=             | . 38                        | X\$ 9             | -               | OR                    |                           | 684   |        |
| INDEPENDENT CLAIMS   | 3 minus 3 =              | . 2                         | X to              | <del>3  </del>  | ٠                     | SE                        | <del>  `                                   </del> |        |
| MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM P   | RESENT                   |                             |                   | -               | OR                    |                           |   | ·      |
|  |                          |                             | 743               |                 | OR                    | 790                       | <b>!</b> .  | ĺ      |
| If the difference in column 1 is   |                          |                             | TOTA              | t               | OR                    | TOTAL                     | 1450  |        |
| 420:05 CLAIMS AS A   | MENDED - PAR             | TII                         |                   |                 |                       | OTHER                     | THAN  |        |
| (Column 1)   | (Colur                   |                             | SMAL              | LENTITY         | OR                    | SMALL                     |   |        |
| REMAINING AFTER  | NUM<br>PREVIO            | BER PRESENT DUSLY EXTRA     | RATE              | 1               |                       | RATE                      | ADDI-<br>TIONAL                                   |        |
| Total AMENDMENT  | PAID                     | FOR /                       |                   | FEE             | 1                     |                           | FÉE   |        |
| Independent 3  | Minus                    |                             | X\$ 9=            |                 | OR                    | X\$18=                    |   | ı<br>İ |
| FIRST PRESENTATION OF MI   | Minus                    |                             | X40=              | T               | OR                    | X80=                      |   |        |
| 1  | OLIPLE DEPENDENT         | CLAIM []                    | 10-               |                 | "                     |                           | /   |        |
| 1,21,46  |                          | •                           | +135=             |                 | OR                    | +270=                     |   |        |
|  |                          |                             | ADDIT, FE         |                 | OR                    | TÖTAV<br>ADDIT, FEE       |   |        |
| (Column 1)   | (Colun                   |                             |                   | 1               |                       |                           |   |        |
| REMAINING  | HIGH<br>NUME<br>PREVIO   | BER PRESENT<br>BUSLY EXTRA  | RATE              | ADDI-<br>TIONAL |                       | RATE                      | ADDI-<br>TIONAL                                   |        |
| Total 7 CA   | PAID F                   |                             |                   | FEE             |                       |                           | FEE   |        |
| Total . 3 9 Independent . 4  | Minus                    | γ =<br>}                    | X\$ 9=            |                 | OR                    | X\$18=                    |   |        |
| FIRST PRESENTATION OF ML   | L                        | <u> </u>                    | X40=              |                 | ОЯ                    | X80=                      |   |        |
|  | en el ber enberr         | OCALINI L                   | +135=             |                 | OR                    | +270=                     | ·   |        |
|  |                          |                             | TOTAL             |                 | OR .                  | TOTAL                     |   |        |
| (Column 1)   | (0-1                     | <b>a</b> )                  | ADDIT. FE         | لـــــا         | OR A                  | ODIT. FEE                 |   |        |
| CLAIMS   | (Colum                   |                             |                   |                 |                       | •                         |   |        |
| REMAINING<br>AFTER   | NUMB<br>PREVIO           |                             | RATE              | ADDI-<br>TIONAL |                       |                           | ADDI-   |        |
| AMENDMENT  | PAID F                   |                             | MAIE              | FEE             | ŀ                     | RATE                      | TIONAL<br>FEE                                     |        |
| AFTER AMENDMENT  Total •  Independent •  | Minus                    | . 3                         | · X\$ 9=          |                 | OR                    | X\$18=                    |   |        |
| Independent •  | Minus •••                | z                           | -                 |                 | $^{\sim}$ $^{\vdash}$ |                           |   |        |
| FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM                                     |                          |                             | X40=              |                 | OR                    | X80=                      |   |        |
|  |                          |                             | +135=             | Į į,            | OR                    | +270=                     |   |        |
| If the entry in column 1 is less than the<br>If the "Highest Number Previously Pai | d For IN THIS SPACE is i | tage than 20 ania son t     | TOTAL             | <b> </b>        | L                     | TOTAL                     |   | •      |
| בין עוצעסטעפוין זפעוווערו וצפתעיי פוע וו   | d For IN THIS SPACE is   | face then 2 antes 92 P      | ADDIT. FEE        |                 | OR AI                 | DDIT. FEE <b>L</b>        |   |        |
| The 'Highest Number Previously Paid  | rw (low or independen    | it) is the highest number f | ound in the a;    | propriate box   | in catu               | mn 1.                     | l   |        |

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# MAY 1 1 2006

Confirmation No.: 3249

# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.:

10/709,250

Applicant: Filed:

Grove et al. 04/23/2004

TC/A.U.:

3672

Examiner:

BOMAR, THOMAS S.

Docket No.: Customer No.: 22.1537 35,204

For:

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR

REDUCING PRESSURE IN A

PERFORATING GUN

VIA FACSIMILE 571-273-8300 MAIL STOP AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER

CFR 8 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being thesimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Tradermark Office on

May 11, 2006

Name (Signature)

Henry L. Ehrlich Nume (Printed)

#### **AMENDMENT**

In response to the Office Action of February 16, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of the claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 10 of this paper.

Applicant has previously authorized payment of any additional fees under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 to deposit account number 50-0457.

#### Page 1

Appl. No. 10/709250 Amdt. dated 05/11/2006 Reply to Office Action of 02/16/2006

1457 (Fed. Cir. 1998) citing Sensonics, Inc. v. Aerosonic Corp., 81 F.3d 1566, 1570, 38 USPQ2d 1551, 1554 (Fed. Cir. 1996).

# Amended Independent Claim 52

The Examiner acknowledged that claim 52 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 52 has been rewritten to include the limitations of previous base claim 1. Applicant has further amended claim 52 to address the informality noted by the Examiner. Applicant therefore requests that the rejection be withdrawn and that claim 52 and its dependent claims be noticed for allowance.

### Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims as amended herein are novel and unobvious. Applicant respectfully requests that the objections and rejections be withdrawn and a Notice of Allowance be mailed.

Respectfully submitted,
WINSTEAD SECHREST & MINICK P.C.

May 11, 2006 DATE

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